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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
OFFICE OF CURRENT INTELLIGENCE
19 June 1954

TO: Deputy Director (Intelligence)

SUBJECT: Requested Evaluation of Economist's Article
"Kenya--End of the Beginning," 27 May 1954

1. OCI considers this article as a generally acceptable statement on the Mau Mau problem. It is a good description of the immediate situation; [REDACTED]

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2. Two minor points of disagreement may be noted:

(a) OCI believes that the degree of infection of the Kamba tribe is more serious than is indicated in the article;

(b) the article is not clear on the anticipated developments in the "balance of power." (Item C)

OCI believes that it is unlikely that the European minority will lose control in the near future through any form of police reorganization. European control of the Legislative Council is guaranteed at least ten years and ownership of firearms is largely restricted to whites. African disagreement over the Mau Mau movement and normal tribal antagonism will probably prevent African unity of action.

3. To give a more accurate portrayal of the situation in Kenya some appraisal of the long-range problems might have been added to the article. The underlying problems are:

(a) the need for land reform in a country where more arable land is not easily available;

(b) the need for political reform, where African political education is so primitive and where a white minority jealously guards its rights;

(c) the need for economic reform including a raising of living standards for non-Europeans; and

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(d) the breakdown of African confidence in the white man's intentions.

These all must be solved if the envisaged multi-racial society is to succeed and peace is to be established in Kenya.

4. Racial and political conflict is likely to intensify between the Europeans, and the Africans and Asians. Unless the white settlers exhibit a significant and unexpected change of attitude, they are unlikely to offer reforms sweeping and timely enough to satisfy the African nationalists and to lessen the basic anti-white sentiments of the population.

HUNTINGTON D. SHELDON
Assistant Director
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